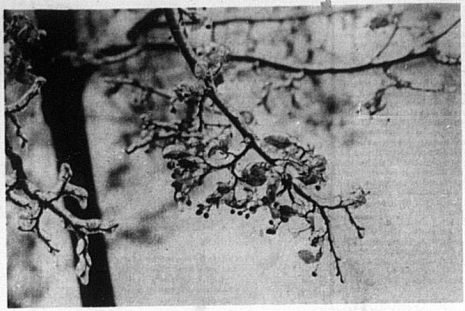
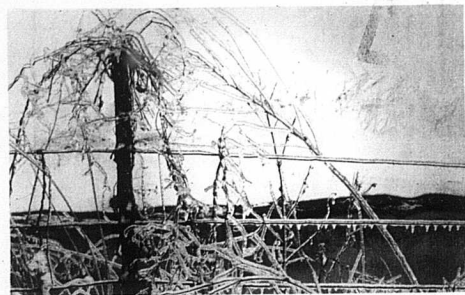


# The new Ice Age



One of a pair

One of a pair that looks the worst with its ice encased limbs bending awkwardly in the distance Linden planted several years ago in front of the Mercury office. The other tree its mate was set out some 20 feet west of Locust Street and stands straight though also ice encased. — Mercury file



Frozen fences

Many plants, bushes and trees were bending under the weight of a coat of ice after last weekend's ice storm. Freezing weather following snow and rains created a winter wonderland — for all except those who had to travel through it. — Mercury photo.

## "Famous Kentuckians"

### Irvin Cobb: Paducah's Gift of Humor

by Lynn Evans

Novelist, poet, reporter, playwright, movie star, after-dinner speaker and radio personality, Irvin Cobb was a favorite son of Paducah, Kentucky. His hometown named a cigar, a bridge, a hotel, a park and a drink after him. Though he spent most of his life outside Kentucky, he never forgot his roots and returned to Paducah twice a year to renew acquaintances.

Born June 23, 1876, Cobb had an ambition to be a cartoonist. His father suffered financial losses so Cobb quit school and went to work driving an ice wagon at the age of 16. Shortly thereafter he started as a copy reporter on the Paducah Daily News. Three years later he became its managing editor. Leaving his beloved western Kentucky, Cobb went to work on the Louisville Evening Post as a general reporter and humorist.

In 1901 Cobb returned to Paducah as managing editor of the new Paducah Democrat. Even then the call of the "big time" beckoned him.

His father-in-law loaned him money to seek his fortune in New York City, but Cobb could not get anyone to hire him. He finally wrote a letter to the managing editors of all the papers in town.

"I told them that I was probably the best reporter in the West, and that I had come to New York to try to become a journalist on the highest possible level, and yet nobody had jumped at the

unparalleled opportunity of hiring me," he recounted.

He got the job the next day with the New York Sun. In 1905 he went to the Evening World as one of the highest-paid reporters in the country. For several years he covered almost every big story that broke, and still saved time for his humorous writing.

A prolific writer, Cobb, in 1936, declared that he had written 100 short stories, 60 books and about 5,000 articles for magazines and newspapers.

He worked hard and filled his leisure hours playing poker, smoking big black cigars and partaking in moderation of alcoholic beverages.

"Speaking of Operators," "Red Likker" and "The Judge" were his best-known contributions to American literature. His humorously writing out his financial arrangements, he asked that his cremated ashes be buried under a dogwood tree in Paducah so that "if anybody tries to insert me into one of those dismal numbers run up by the undertaker's dreamsaking department, I'll come back and hit 'em. I'll be done with after-dinner speaking forever so why dispatch me hence in the regalia of the craft!"

He suggested as pallbearers, friends who "suckle to their bosoms three of a kind in a dollar limit game." His wishes were carried out in early March, 1944.

Irvin S. Cobb



A SURVEY is conducted by an Ethiopian health officer who shows a photograph of a smallpox victim and asks villagers if they have seen anyone with the telltale rash.

# After many centuries smallpox is conquered

by William J. O'Neill  
National Geographic News Service

WASHINGTON — When Dr. Donald A. Henderson agreed to head a United Nations drive to wipe out smallpox, a colleague warned him bluntly, "You don't stand a chance."

Three years later, when a massive campaign had rid several countries of the dread disease, a professor from England cautioned him: "Beware in mind that Asia is the ancient home of smallpox. Eradication in South America or Africa is one thing; Asia is quite impossible."

Yet in just a decade the disease that had scourged humanity for thousands of years apparently has been vanquished. The last known smallpox on earth is frozen in a few glass vials held in a dozen laboratories around the world.

Yet in just a decade the disease that had scourged humanity for thousands of years apparently has been vanquished. The last known smallpox on earth is frozen in a few glass vials held in a dozen laboratories around the world.

WHO tried again in 1967, under Dr. Henderson's direction.

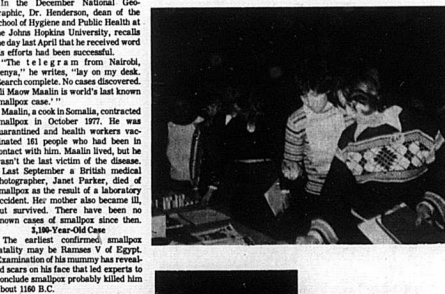
"That year 31,000 cases were reported," he recalls. "We now estimate there were actually 10 to 15 million cases in 44 countries."

To make the enormous task easier, Wyeth Laboratories designed a two-tined needle that could be sterilized and reused. When dipped in vaccine, the tines captured enough fluid between them for a vaccination to be applied with 15 quick jabs to the arm.

Health teams that included teachers and Boy Scouts took to the field. By 1972, smallpox was prevalent in only 10 nations. By 1975, that number was reduced to five; in 1977, to none.

Confirmation of the campaign's success requires that a two-year search of every infected area of the world finds no cases of smallpox anywhere.

But Dr. Henderson feels reasonably certain that "we have reached our goal: zero cases of the most devastating and feared of the great pestilences — the first disease to be eradicated by man."



The closely guarded virus is being stored so that it can be used to produce vaccine if the disease should reappear.

In the December National Geographic, Dr. Henderson, dean of the School of Hygiene and Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University, recalls the day last April that he received word his efforts had been successful.

"The telegram from Nairobi, Kenya," he writes, "lay on my desk. Search complete. No cases discovered. All Masov Maalin is world's last known smallpox case."

Maalin, a cook in Somalia, contracted smallpox in October 1977. He was quarantined and health workers vaccinated 181 people who had been in contact with him. Maalin lived, but he wasn't the last victim of the disease.

Last September a British medical photographer, Janet Parker, died of smallpox as the result of a laboratory accident. Her mother also became ill, but survived. There have been no known cases of smallpox since then.

2,100-Year-Old Case

The earliest confirmed smallpox fatality may be Harwan V of Egypt. Examination of his mummy has revealed scars on his face that led experts to conclude smallpox probably killed him about 1100 B.C.

In the centuries separating the pharaoh and the photographer, untold millions succumbed to the disease. Those it didn't kill were permanently scarred, sometimes blinded. The ravages of smallpox repeatedly altered history.

"Brought by Cortes to the New World, it eventually killed an estimated 24 million Indians and contributed to the collapse of the Inca and Aztec civilizations," Dr. Henderson writes. "Devastation of North American Indians paved the way for European settlement."

Smallpox is transmitted in tiny droplets expelled from the mouth and nose. A victim develops pain and fever within two weeks, then the rash. No treatment exists, and in the past 91 to 99 per cent of those afflicted with the severe Asian strain died.

In 1978 Dr. Edward Jenner found that milkmaids in England who caught a mild infection called cowpox never got smallpox. He used cowpox to develop the world's first vaccine.

Compulsory vaccination rid many nations of the disease by the 1940s. In 1969 the World Health Organization (WHO) launched a drive to wipe out

## S(n)o w fun for teachers

The recent snows have kept Nicholas County students at home but their teachers have been busy just the same.

During a recent snow day the teachers at the elementary school participated in a Reading, Ideas Sharing program and also listened to a report from Sgt. Don Elder on "School Law and the Classroom Teacher." Teachers at the high school spent the day in curriculum study and lesson adoption. Among the teachers involved were, large picture, from left, Lottie O'Brian, Katie Hunt, Hannah Gabriel, Rose Denton and Cheryl Herrin. In the smaller picture, from left, are Carol Hammons, Wanda Gammon and Edna Cobb. — Photos submitted.



Children get tetanus shots (lockjaw) but it's the person over 45 who gets tetanus and dies from it. Why? Because many people over 45 have never had those shots and have no immunity. If you're one of them, get your tetanus shot now.

# Saltwell

by Mrs. Fred Hollar

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Goodman and daughters Angie and Paula of Indianapolis, Ind. spent from Thursday till Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Snapp, Mr. and Mrs. Roy J. Snapp and Eddie of Cincinnati and Jerry Snapp of Austin, Texas also spent the day on Friday with the Snapps. Mrs. Roy E. Snapp became ill on Friday morning and was taken to Nicholas County Hospital where she remains for treatment.

Mike Matton and Joanne Masale visited Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Matton, Bartlettville on Saturday.

The Carlisle Church was the scene of the lovely wedding on Monday afternoon of Miss Elaine Riggs and Mr. Eddie Ellington. They will reside in London, Ky.

Miss Norma Jean Gausse spent a night or two the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Gausse.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Allison Jr.,

Carlisle and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Grant, Wilmore spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Allen Ruke.

Jeff Matton left on Sunday for Morehead to enter the Morehead State University for the second semester after spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Chester Matton and Regina. Our community extends sympathy to the families of Mrs. Eva Mae Snapp who passed away on Saturday at Johnson-Mathers Nursing Home and George Roberts who passed away on Friday morning at his home in Carlisle.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Ellington, London spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Riggs and Roger, the occasion being Mrs. Ellington's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. D. Allison Sr. entered Nicholas County Hospital during the week and remain patients there.

Miss Brenda Matton, Los Angeles, Ca. is spending a few weeks with her mother Mrs. Arnold Matton, Lexington.

They both also spent the day recently with Mr. and Mrs. Gene Toland and family of Winchester.

Mrs. Naomi Snapp, Cynthiana is visiting her brother Everett Snapp at Headquarters.

Mrs. Hazel Snapp and Everett Snapp dined at a Mt. Olive restaurant on Wednesday.

We extend sincere sympathy to Mrs. Edith Blake's family in her passing on Sunday evening at St. Joseph Hospital,

Lexington. She was really a fine and useful lady and will be missed by all who knew her.

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and Mrs. Joe Schandling of Carlisle. The paternal grandmothers are Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Broderick also of Carlisle.

## Births of local interest

**HOLLAR**  
Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Kent Hollar of Carlisle announce the birth of a son born at Good Samaritan Hospital, Lexington on Jan. 4, 1979. He weighed six pounds and 12½ ounces and has been named Bradley Kent. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mitchell of Carlisle. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sturm of London.

**SMITH**  
Mr. and Mrs. Burton Smith of Indiana announce the birth of a son, Lloyd William, born Dec. 15, 1978. He is the sixth child in the family. His parents have 10 grandchildren. Mrs. Claude Luville of Green Valley Apartments is the maternal grandmother, and Lloyd is her 30th grandchild.

**BRODERICK**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Broderick of Lexington are the parents of a son born Dec. 31, 1978. The Good Samaritan Hospital. He weighed eight pounds and 11 ounces and has been named Collin Booth. The maternal grandparents are Mr.

and Mrs. Joe Schandling of Carlisle. The paternal grandmothers are Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Broderick also of Carlisle.

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3 lb. bag  
**Yellow Onions 49¢**

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22 oz.  
**22oz. Cremora \$1.69**

**JANUARY PRICE CUTTERS**

6 pk.  
**Charmin \$1.19**

7 1/4 oz.  
**Kraft Dinners 3/89¢**

12 oz. pkg.  
**Kahn's Bologna \$1.19**

200 Ct. White, Asst.  
**Puffs 59¢**

64 oz.  
**Downy \$1.89**

12 oz. pkg.  
**Coke, Sprite, Tab \$1.19**

16 oz. W/Bts.  
**Coke, Tab, Sprite 89¢**

12 oz. Bath Soap  
**Dial Soap 2/69¢**

10 oz. 3/1.00  
**Kraft Marshmallows**

10 oz. 59¢  
**Frozen Niblet Corn**

10 oz. 99¢  
**Pillsburg Cookies**

10 oz. 99¢  
**Stouffer Pizza Bread**

12 oz. 99¢  
**Stouffer Pizza Bread**

10 oz. 99¢  
**Stouffer Pizza Bread**

30's 2/4.99  
**Pampers Daytime**

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Green Giant 10 oz. Also Mixed Vegetables Sweet Peas, Corn, Style Corn  
Frozen Niblet Corn... 10 oz. 59¢  
Butterscotch, Sugar, Choc. Chip, Oatmeal Fudge Brownies, Oatmeal Raisin  
Pillsburg Cookies... 10 oz. 99¢  
Deluxe 12 oz. Also Peppercorn & Sausage  
Stouffer Pizza Bread... 10 oz. 99¢  
Also Extra Absorbent  
Pampers Daytime... 30's 2/4.99